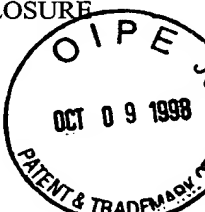


SHEET 1 OF 1

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION  PTO-1449			ATTY. DOCKET NO. 17616-705		SERIAL NO. 08/714,987		
			APPLICANT Sharkey et al.				
			FILING DATE September 17, 1996		GROUP 3311		
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	PATENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE	
<del>DA</del>	<del>5,186,181</del>	<del>2-16-93</del>	<del>Franconi et al.</del>	<del>1</del>	<del></del>	<del></del>	
<del>DA</del>	<del>5,458,596</del>	<del>10-17-95</del>	<del>Lax et al.</del>	<del></del>	<del></del>	<del></del>	
<del>DA</del>	<del>5,569,242</del>	<del>10-29-96</del>	<del>Lax et al.</del>	<del></del>	<del></del>	<del></del>	
<del>DA</del>	<del>5,352,868</del>	<del>10-4-94</del>	<del>Denen et al.</del>	<del></del>	<del></del>	<del></del>	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
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<del>DA</del>	<del>WO97/06855</del>	<del>27-02-97</del>	<del>PCT</del>	<del></del>	<del></del>	<del></del>	<del></del>
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<del>DA</del>	<del>WO95/18575</del>	<del>13-07-95</del>	<del>PCT</del>	<del></del>	<del></del>	<del></del>	<del></del>
<del>DA</del>	<del>WO95/01814</del>	<del>19-01-95</del>	<del>PCT</del>	<del></del>	<del></del>	<del>N/A</del>	<del></del>
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OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
EXAMINER			DATE CONSIDERED June 21, 1998				

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION  PTO-1449		ATTY. DOCKET NO. 17616-705	SERIAL NO. 08/714,981
APPLICANT Hugh Sharkey, et al.		FILING DATE September 17, 1996	GROUP 3736

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER'S INITIALS	PATENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
<i>dm</i>	3,178,728	4-20-65	Christensen	<del>3</del>	<del>1</del>	<del>10-22-62</del>
<i>dm</i>	3,579,643	5-25-71	Morgan	<del>3</del>	<del>1</del>	<del>12-12-68</del>
<i>dm</i>	3,776,230	12-4-73	Neefe	128	260	4-18-73
<i>dm</i>	3,867,728	2-25-75	Substad et al.	<del>3</del>	<del>1</del>	<del>4-5-73</del>
<i>dm</i>	3,879,767	4-29-75	Substad	<del>3</del>	<del>1</del>	<del>2-11-74</del>
<i>dm</i>	3,886,600	6-3-75	Kahn et al.	<del>3</del>	<del>1</del>	<del>9-26-73</del>
<i>dm</i>	3,938,198	2-17-76	Kahn et al.	<del>3</del>	1.912	9-27-73
<i>dm</i>	3,987,499	10-26-76	Scharbach et al.	<del>3</del>	1.91	8-9-74
<i>dm</i>	3,992,725	11-23-76	Homsy	<del>3</del>	<del>1</del>	<del>10-17-74</del>
<i>dm</i>	4,043,342	8-23-77	Morrison, Jr.	128	303.14	2-26-76
<i>dm</i>	4,085,466	4-25-78	Goodfellow et al.	<del>3</del>	1.91	<del>8-4-77</del>

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER'S INITIALS	PATENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
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<i>dm</i>	637118	15/12/78	U.S.S.R.	A61B	17/18		XX
<i>dm</i>	1 340 451	12/12/73	Great Britain	A61F	1/00		
<i>dm</i>	1,122,634	11/09/56	France	A61F	19/0		XX
<i>dm</i>	0 479 482 A1	08/04/92	Europe	A61B	17/39		
<i>dm</i>	0 479 482 B1	01/05/96	Europe	A61B	17/39		
<i>dm</i>	0 542 412 A1	19/05/93	Europe	A61B	17/39		

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

<i>dm</i>	Christian, C. et al., "Allograft Anterior Cruciate Ligament Reconstruction with Patellar Tendon: An Endoscopic Technique", <i>Operative Techniques in Sports Medicine</i> , Vol. 1, No. 1, Jan. 1993, pp. 50-57.
<i>dm</i>	Haupt, J. et al., "Experimental Study of Temperature Distributions and Thermal Transport During Radiofrequency Current Therapy of the Intervertebral Disc", <i>SPINE</i> , Vol. 21, No. 15, (1996), pp. 1808-13.
<i>dm</i>	Troussier, B. et al., "Percutaneous Intradiscal Radio-Frequency Thermocoagulation: A Cadaveric Study", <i>SPINE</i> , Vol. 20, No. 15, (Aug. 1995), pp. 1713-18.

EXAMINER <i>David Sharkey</i>	DATE CONSIDERED <i>March 24, 1999</i>
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION PTO-449 <b>OCT 09 1998</b>	ATTY. DOCKET NO. 17616-705	SERIAL NO. 08/184,987
APPLICANT Hugh Sharkey, et al.		
FILING DATE September 17, 1996		GROUP 3736

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER'S INITIALS	PATENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
<i>dm</i>	4,129,470	12-12-78	Homsy	<del>156</del>	<del>155</del>	6-7-76
<i>dm</i>	4,224,696	9-30-80	Murray et al.	<del>3</del>	<del>1.911</del>	9-8-78
<i>dm</i>	4,224,697	9-30-80	Murray et al.	<del>3</del>	<del>1.911</del>	9-8-78
<i>dm</i>	4,326,529	4-27-82	Doss et al.	<del>128</del>	<del>303.1</del>	12-5-79
<i>dm</i>	4,344,193	8-17-82	Kenny	<del>3</del>	<del>1.911</del>	11-28-80
<i>dm</i>	4,362,160	12-7-82	Hiltebrandt	<del>128</del>	<del>303.15</del>	7-17-80
<i>dm</i>	4,375,220	3-1-83	Matvias	<del>128</del>	<del>804</del>	5-9-80
<i>dm</i>	4,381,007	4-26-83	Doss	<del>128</del>	<del>303.1</del>	4-30-81
<i>dm</i>	4,397,314	8-9-83	Vaguine	<del>128</del>	<del>399</del>	8-3-81
<i>dm</i>	4,483,338	11-20-84	Bloom et al.	<del>128</del>	<del>303.13</del>	6-12-81
<i>dm</i>	4,517,965	5-21-85	Ellison	<del>128</del>	<del>20</del>	6-27-83
<i>dm</i>	4,517,975	5-21-85	Garito et al.	<del>128</del>	<del>303.13</del>	6-6-83
<i>dm</i>	4,593,691	6-10-86	Lindstrom et al.	<del>128</del>	<del>303.14</del>	7-13-83
<i>dm</i>	4,597,379	7-1-86	Kihn et al.	<del>128</del>	<del>1 R</del>	3-30-83

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

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<i>dm</i>	0 572 131 A1	01/12/93	Europe	A61B	17/39		
<i>dm</i>	WO 85/02762	04/07/85	PCT	A61B	17/36		XX
<i>dm</i>	WO 93/01774	04/02/93	PCT	A61F	7/12		XX
<i>dm</i>	WO 95/20360	03/08/95	PCT	A61B	17/39		
<i>dm</i>	WO 95/30373	16/11/95	PCT	A61B	17/00		

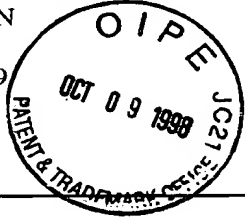
**OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)**

EXAMINER <i>did</i>	DATE CONSIDERED <i>March 21, 1999</i>
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION  PTO-1449	ATTY. DOCKET NO. 17616-705  APPLICANT Hugh Sharkey, et al.  FILING DATE September 17, 1996  GROUP 3736
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**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER'S INITIALS	PATENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
<i>dm</i>	4,811,733	3-14-89	Borsanyi et al.	<del>128</del>	<del>303-14</del>	12-29-86
<i>dm</i>	4,873,976	10-17-89	Schreiber	<del>128</del>	<del>334 R</del>	2-28-84
<i>dm</i>	4,894,063	1-16-90	Nashef	<del>623</del>	<del>13</del>	5-24-83
<i>dm</i>	4,895,148	1-23-90	Bays et al.	<del>606</del>	<del>213</del>	3-22-89
<i>dm</i>	4,907,585	3-13-90	Schachar	<del>606</del>	<del>28</del>	12-3-87
<i>dm</i>	4,907,589	3-13-90	Cosman	<del>606</del>	<del>34</del>	4-29-88
<i>dm</i>	4,924,865	5-15-90	Bays et al.	<del>606</del>	<del>77</del>	5-16-88
<i>dm</i>	4,944,727	7-31-90	McCoy	<del>604</del>	<del>95</del>	10-2-87
<i>dm</i>	4,950,234	8-21-90	Fujioka et al.	<del>604</del>	<del>60</del>	5-25-88
<i>dm</i>	4,966,597	10-30-90	Cosman	<del>606</del>	<del>50</del>	11-4-88
<i>dm</i>	4,976,709	12-11-90	Sand	<del>606</del>	<del>5</del>	6-30-89
<i>dm</i>	4,976,715	12-11-90	Bays et al.	<del>606</del>	<del>77</del>	1-30-90
<i>dm</i>	4,998,933	3-12-91	Eggers et al.	<del>606</del>	<del>41</del>	6-10-88
<i>dm</i>	5,007,908	4-16-91	Rydell	<del>606</del>	<del>47</del>	9-29-89
<i>dm</i>	5,009,656	4-23-91	Reimels	<del>606</del>	<del>48</del>	8-17-89
<i>dm</i>	5,100,402	3-31-92	Fan	<del>606</del>	<del>41</del>	10-5-90
<i>dm</i>	5,103,804	4-14-92	Abele et al.	<del>128</del>	<del>4</del>	7-3-90
<i>dm</i>	5,178,620	1-12-93	Eggers et al.	<del>606</del>	<del>41</del>	2-22-91

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER'S INITIALS	PATENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO

**OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)**

EXAMINER <i>dm</i>	DATE CONSIDERED <i>March 24, 1999</i>
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SHEET 4 OF 9

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION	ATTY. DOCKET NO. 17616-705
PTO-1449	APPLICANT Hugh Sharkey, et al.
	FILING DATE September 17, 1996
	GROUP 3736

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER'S INITIALS	PATENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
<i>dm</i>	5,191,883	3-9-93	Lennox et al.	128	401	5-22-90
<i>dm</i>	5,201,729	4-13-93	Hertzmann et al.	606	2	1-30-90
<i>dm</i>	5,201,730	4-13-93	Easley et al.	606	4	1-3-92
<i>dm</i>	5,213,097	5-25-93	Zeindler	128	401	7-13-92
<i>dm</i>	5,230,334	7-27-93	Klopotek	128	399	1-22-92
<i>dm</i>	5,242,441	9-7-93	Avitall	606	41	2-24-92
<i>dm</i>	5,261,906	11-16-93	Pennino et al.	606	46	12-9-91
<i>dm</i>	5,275,151	1-4-94	Shockey et al.	128	4	12-11-91
<i>dm</i>	5,284,479	2-8-94	de Jong	604	60	7-13-92
<i>dm</i>	5,304,169	4-19-94	Sand	606	5	8-17-92
<i>dm</i>	5,311,858	5-17-94	Adair	128	4	6-15-92
<i>dm</i>	5,320,115	6-14-94	Kenna	128	898	1-16-91
<i>dm</i>	5,323,778	6-28-94	Kandarpa et al.	128	653.2	1-5-91
<i>dm</i>	5,334,193	8-2-94	Nardella	606	41	11-13-92
<i>dm</i>	5,348,554	9-20-94	Imran et al.	606	41	12-1-92
<i>dm</i>	5,366,443	11-22-94	Eggers et al.	604	114	10-9-92
<i>dm</i>	5,433,739	7-18-95	Sluijter et al.	607	99	11-2-93
<i>dm</i>	5,458,596	10-17-95	Lax et al.	606	31	5-6-94

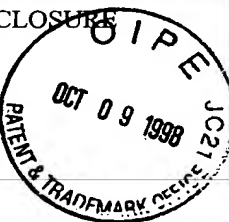
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

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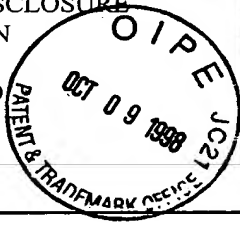
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EXAMINER <i>dm</i>	DATE CONSIDERED <i>March 21, 1999</i>
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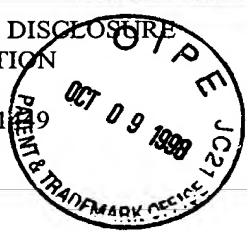
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION  PTO-1449		ATTY. DOCKET NO. 17616-705		SERIAL NO. 08/714,987		
		APPLICANT Hugh Sharkey, et al.				
		FILING DATE September 17, 1996		GROUP 3736		
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	PATENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
DM	5,465,737	11-14-95	Schachar	128	898	1-30-95
DM	5,484,403	1-16-96	Yoakum et al.	604	59	4-5-94
DM	5,484,432	1-16-96	Sand	606	5	4-14-94
DM	5,484,435	1-16-96	Fleenor et al.	606	46	11-8-93
DM	5,507,812	4-16-96	Moore	623	13	4-26-94
DM	5,514,130	5-7-96	Baker	606	41	10-11-94
DM	5,542,920	8-6-96	Cherif Cheikh	604	57	9-12-94
DM	5,569,242	10-29-96	Lax et al.	606	42	2-16-95
DM	2,090,923	8-24-37	Wappler	428	303.15	7-12-35
DM	3,856,015	12-24-74	Iglesias	128	303.15	6-8-73
DM	3,945,375	3-23-76	Banko	128	6	4-30-73
DM	4,134,406	1-16-79	Iglesias	128	303.15	10-7-77
DM	4,476,862	10-16-84	Pao	128	303.17	9-30-82
DM	4,590,934	5-27-86	Malis et al.	128	303.14	5-18-83
DM	4,651,734	3-24-87	Doss et al.	128	303.14	2-8-85
DM	4,815,462	3-28-89	Clark	128	305	4-6-87
DM	4,838,859	6-13-89	Strassmann	604	95	5-19-87
DM	4,955,882	9-11-90	Hakky	606	14	3-30-88
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	PATENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
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EXAMINER <i>[Signature]</i>				DATE CONSIDERED <i>May 21, 1999</i>		

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION PTO-1449		ATTY. DOCKET NO. 17616-705		SERIAL NO. 08/714,987			
		APPLICANT Hugh Sharkey, et al.					
		FILING DATE September 17, 1996		GROUP 3736			
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	PATENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE	
<i>dm</i>	5,085,657	2-4-92	Ben-Simhon	<del>606</del>	<del>42</del>	10-9-90	
<i>dm</i>	5,098,430	3-24-92	Fleenor	<del>606</del>	<del>42</del>	3-16-90	
<i>dm</i>	5,186,181	2-16-93	Franconi et al.	<del>128</del>	<del>804</del>	7-27-90	
<i>dm</i>	5,192,267	3-9-93	Shapira et al.	<del>604</del>	<del>22</del>	3-28-91	
<i>dm</i>	5,308,311	5-3-94	Eggers et al.	<del>606</del>	<del>28</del>	5-1-92	
<i>dm</i>	5,342,357	8-30-94	Nardella	<del>606</del>	<del>40</del>	11-13-92	
<i>dm</i>	5,352,868	10-4-94	Denen et al.	<del>219</del>	<del>501</del>	5-1-92	
<i>dm</i>	5,354,331	10-11-94	Schachar	<del>623</del>	<del>4</del>	7-15-92	
<i>dm</i>	5,364,395	11-15-94	West, Jr.	<del>606</del>	<del>46</del>	5-14-93	
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	PATENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
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<i>dm</i>	WO 93/20984	28/10/93	PCT	<del>B26D</del>	<del>1/11</del>		
<i>dm</i>	WO 95/01814	19/01/95	PCT	<del>A61N</del>	<del>5/02</del>		
<i>dm</i>	WO 95/13113	18/05/95	PCT	A61N	5/02		
<i>dm</i>	WO 95/18575	13/07/95	PCT	<del>A61B</del>	<del>17/39</del>		
<i>dm</i>	WO 96/39914	19/12/96	PCT	A61B	1/00		
<b>OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</b>							
<i>dm</i>	Beadling, L., "Bi-Polar electrosurgical devices: Sculpting the future of arthroscopy", <i>Orthopedics today</i> , Vol. 17, No. 1, January 1997, 4 pages.						
<i>dm</i>	Ellman International Mfg., Inc., 1989, Catalog, pp. 1-15, 20.						
<i>dm</i>	Cosset, J.M., "Resistive Radiofrequency (Low Frequency) Interstitial Heating (RF Technique), Interstitial Hyperthermia, 12/6/93, pp. 3-5, 37.						
	Attachment I: Competitive Literature on Generators with Bipolar Capabilities, IME Co., Ltd., pp. 60-86.						
	Attachment II: Competitive Literature on Bipolar Forceps and Footswitch Controls, IME Co., Ltd., pp. 87-104.						
EXAMINER <i>dm</i>			DATE CONSIDERED <i>March 21, 1999</i>				

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION  PTO-1529		ATTY. DOCKET NO. 17616-705		SERIAL NO. 08/714,987			
		APPLICANT Hugh Sharkey, et al.					
		FILING DATE September 17, 1996		GROUP 3736			
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
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<i>dm</i>	5,415,633	5-16-95	Lazarus et al.	<del>604</del>	<del>95</del>	7-28-93	
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION  PTO-1449		ATTY. DOCKET NO. 17616-705  APPLICANT Hugh Sharkey, et al.		SERIAL NO. 08/714,987	
		FILING DATE September 17, 1996		GROUP 3736	

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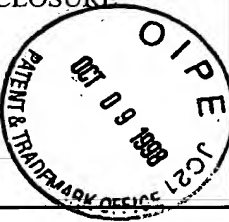
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<i>dm</i>	2 164 473 A	19/03/86	Great Britain	<del>A61B</del>	<del>17/36</del>		

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		APPLICANT Hugh Sharkey, et al.					
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<i>dm</i>	4,601,705	7/22/86	McCoy	<del>604</del>	<del>94</del>		
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<i>dm</i>	Auhll, Richard A., "The Use of the Resectoscope in Gynecology." Biomedical Business International, October 11, 1990, pp. 91-93.						
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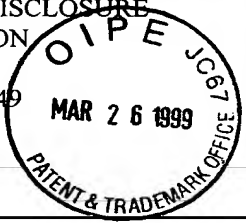
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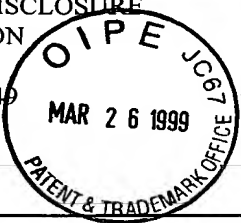
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FILING DATE September 17, 1996							
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OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
<del>Trimedyn, The Less Invasive Laser Advantage, Omni Spinal Introduction System</del>							
<i>dm</i>	PRNewswire (Dec. 12, 1994), Two Physicians Perform First Outpatient Cervical Disc Procedure Using Laser Technology <i>1 page</i>						
<i>dm</i>	Introduction to the LDD Disc Kit, Oct. 16, 1996 <i>1 page</i>						
<i>dm</i>	Mayer et al., Lasers in Percutaneous Disc Surgery: Beneficial Technology or Gimmick?, Vol. 25 No.251 (1993) pp. 38-44 <i>Acta Orthop Scand (Suppl)</i>						
<i>dm</i>	<del>Schatz et al., Preliminary Experience With Percutaneous Laser Disc Decompression in the Treatment of Sciatica, Vol. 38 No. 5, Oct. 1995, pp. 432-436</del>						
<i>dm</i>	Savitz M. A., Same-day Microsurgical Arthroscopic lateral-approach Laser-assisted (SMALL) Fluoroscopic Discectomy, Vol. 80, June 1994 pp. 1039-1045						
<i>dm</i>	Bosacco et al., Functional Results of Percutaneous Laser Discectomy, Dec. 1996, pp. 825-828						
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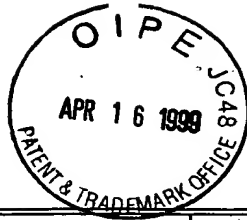
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION PTO-1449		ATTY. DOCKET NO. 17616-705		SERIAL NO. 08/714,987	
		APPLICANT Sharkey et al.		<b>RECEIVED</b> GROUP 3739 <b>MAR 5 1 1999</b>	
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<i>dm</i>	Sluijter M.E., The Use of Radiofrequency lesions For Pain Relief in Failed Back Patients, Vol. 10 No. 1 (1988) p37-43 <i>INT DISABIL STUDIES</i>				
<i>dm</i>	Cosman et al., Theoretical Aspects of Radiofrequency lesions in the Dorsal Root Entry Zone, Vol. 15 No. 6 (1984) pp. 945-950				
	Wilkins et al., Neurosurgery: Method of Making Nervous System Lesions, ch. 337, pp. 2490-2499				
	<del>Yonezawa et al., The System and Procedure of percutaneous Intradiscal Laser Nucleotomy, Vol. 15 No. 5 (1990) pp. 1175-1185</del>				
	<del>Kolarik et al., Photonucleolysis of Intervertebral Disc and it's Herniation, (1990)</del>				
<i>dm</i>	Gottlob et al., LASERS IN SURGERY AND MEDICINE: Holmium:YAG Laser Ablation of Human Intervertebral Disc: Preliminary Evaluation, Vol. 12, (1992) pp. 86-91 <i>(1992)</i>				
<i>dm</i>	Buchelt et al., LASERS IN SURGERY AND MEDICINE: Fluorescence Guided Excimer Laser Ablation of Intervertebral Discs In Vitro, Vol. 11, (1991) pp. 280-286				
<i>dm</i>	Choy et al., Percutaneous Laser Disc Decompression: A New Therapeutic Modality, Vol. 17 No. 8, (1992) pp. 949-956 <i>SPINE</i>				
<i>dm</i>	Sluijter et al., Persistant Pain, Modern Methods of Treatment: Treatment of Chronic Back and neck Pain, Vol. 3, (1981) pp. 141-179				
	<del>Sluijter, INT DISABIL STUDIES: The use of Radio Frequency Lesions For Pain Relief in Failed Back, Vol. 10, Sept. 4, 1996, pp. 37-43</del>				
<i>dm</i>	Shatz et al., CJS JCC Preliminary Experience With Percutaneous Laser Disc Decompression in the Treatment of Sciatica, Vol. 38 No. 5, Oct. 1995 pp. 432-436				
<i>dm</i>	GERMAN <i>no translation</i> Gerber et al., DER ORTHOPAED: Offene Laserchirurgie am Bewegungsapparat, Vol. 25, (1996) pp. 56-63				
	Sluyter, Radiofrequency Lesions in the Treatment of Cervical Pain Syndromes, Radionics, Inc. (1989)				
<i>dm</i>	Kelly L.E., Purification and Properties of a 23kDa Ca <sup>2+</sup> -binding Protein, (1990) 271, pp. 661-666				
<i>dm</i>	Gehring W. J., Exploring the Homeobox, (1993), pp. 215-221				
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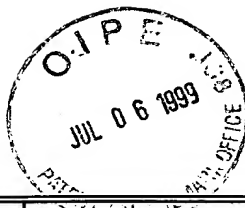
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<i>dm</i>	Buchelt et al., LASERS IN SURGERY AND MEDICINE: Erb:YAG and Hol:YAG Laser Ablation of Meniscus and Intervertebral Discs, Vol. 12 No. 4, (1992) pp. 375-381				
<i>dm</i>	Leu et al., DER ORTHOPAED: Endoskopie der Wirbelsaule: Minimal-invasive Therapie, Vol. 21, (1992) pp. 267-272 <i>GERMAN - NO TRANSLATION</i>				
<i>dm</i>	Phillips et al., JMRI: MR Imaging of Ho: YAG Laser Discectomy with Histologic Correlation, Vol. 3 No. 3, May/June 1993 <i>pp 515-520</i> <i>JMRI</i>				
<i>dm</i>	Bromm et al., HUMAN NEUROBIOLOGY: Nerve Fibre Discharges, Cerebral Potentials and Sensations Induced by CO2 laser Stimulation, Vol.3, (1984) pp. 33-40				
<i>dm</i>	Kolařík et al., Photonucleolysis of Intervertebral Disc and its Herniation, Vol. 51, (1990) pp. 69-71 <i>GERMAN - NO TRANSLATION</i>				
<i>dm</i>	Vorwerck et al., Laserablation des Nucleus Pulposus: Optische Eigenschaften von Degeneriertem Bandscheibengewebe im Wellenlangenbereich von 200 bis 2200nm, Vol. 151 No. 6, (1989) pp. 725-728				
<i>dm</i>	Wolgin et al., Excimer Ablation of Human Intervertebral Disc at 308 Nanometers, Vol. 9, (1989) pp. 124-131				
<i>dm</i>	Davis, Early experience with Laser Disc Decompression, Vol. 79 No. 1, (1992) j. Florida M.A.				
<i>dm</i>	Quigley et al., Laser Discectomy: Comparison of Systems, Vol. 19 No. 3 (1994) pp. 319-322				
<i>dm</i>	Mehta et al., The Treatment of Chronic back Pain: A Preliminary survey of the Effect of Radiofrequency Denervation of the Posterior Vertebral Joints, Vol. 34 (1979) pp. 768-775				
<i>dm</i>	Patil et al., Percutaneous Discectomy Using the Electromagnetic Field Focusing Probe: A Feasibility Study <i>INT SURG 1991; 76: 6</i>				
<i>dm</i>	McCulloch et al., CMA JOURNAL: Percutaneous Radiofrequency Lumbar Rhizolysis (rhizotomy), Vol. 116, January 8, 1977				
<i>dm</i>	Yonezawa et al., The System and Procedure of Percutaneous Intradiscal Laser Nucleotomy, Vol. 15 No. 11 (1990) <i>pp 1175-1185</i> <i>SPINE</i>				
<i>dm</i>	Sminia et al., Effects of 434 MHz Microwave Hyperthermia applied to the rat in the region of the cervical Spinal Cord, Vol. 3 No. 5 (1987) pp. 441-452				
<i>dm</i>	Sluijter et al., Treatment of Chronic Back and Neck Pain by Percutaneous Therman Lesions, Vol. 3 (1981) <i>p141-149</i>				
EXAMINER <i>David Sharkey</i>			DATE CONSIDERED <i>December 15, 1998</i>		

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<i>dm</i>	5,527,331	6/18/96	Kresch et al.	606	170		
<i>dm</i>	5,718,702	2/17/98	Edwards	606	41		
<i>dm</i>	5,728,795	7/21/98	Bays	606	22		
<i>dm</i>	5,810,809	8/22/98	Rydell	606	49		
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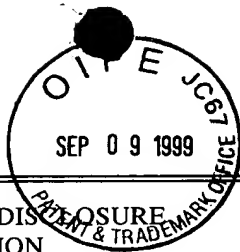
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<i>dm</i>	5,152,748	10/06/92	Chastagner	<del>604</del>	<del>95</del>		
<i>dm</i>	5,279,559	1/18/94	Barr	<del>604</del>	<del>95</del>		
	<del>5,415,633</del>	<del>5/16/95</del>	<del>Lazarus et al.</del>	<del>604</del>	<del>95</del>		
	<del>5,433,739</del>	<del>7/18/95</del>	<del>Shuijter et al.</del>	<del>607</del>	<del>99</del>		
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						YES	NO
<i>dm</i>	WO 92/05828	4/16/92	PCT	<del>A61M</del>	<del>25/00</del>		
<i>dm</i>	WO 96/32885	10/24/96	PCT	<del>A61B</del>	<del>5/04</del>		
<i>dm</i>	WO 96/34559	11/07/96	PCT	<del>A61B</del>	<del>5/0402</del>		
<i>dm</i>	WO 98/17190	4/30/98	PCT	<del>A61B</del>	<del>18/00</del>		
	<del>0 682 910 A1</del>	<del>11/22/95</del>	<del>Europe</del>	<del>A61B</del>	<del>1/00</del>		
	<del>0 737 487 A2</del>	<del>10/16/96</del>	<del>Europe</del>	<del>A61M</del>	<del>25/01</del>		
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
EXAMINER <i>[Signature]</i>			DATE CONSIDERED <i>December 16, 1999</i>				

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.